

SECRET

384

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SPECIAL REPORT

Subject: A Miscellaneous Thought

The shooting of General Schneider probably has forced the plotters to revise their game plan. Should Allende assume the presidency on 3 November as anticipated, it will be only a matter of time before the plotters' role in the shooting surfaces. They could leave the country or attempt to blame other for the assault, but it seems more likely that they will stay and try to deny Allende the presidency. In short, they have gone beyond the point of no return.

If they remain in Chile, there appears to be only two options open to them for blocking Allende: they can try to force Frei to resign or they can attempt to assassinate Allende! No doubt they are now carefully analyzing these options and measuring their chances for success. Thus far, assassination has not been a serious consideration, but the shooting of Schneider has raised the stakes. The plotters are now desperate and may attempt such a move even though they do not have the expertise.

Although an assassination attempt may be made on Allende's life, it is still our best estimate that the plotters will confront Frei this evening and request his resignation.

Approved for Release
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